

**SBW Washington Briefing  
April 23, 2007  
Washington, DC**

**Welcome Remarks**

Good morning and welcome to SBA's 2007 Small Business Week celebration. I would like to thank all of you, who have traveled far to join us here today. This is an exciting time for the SBA because we have the opportunity to meet you all and thank you for the contributions you have made to the small business community.

We have four exciting events today and tomorrow with some excellent guest speakers. Among some of our guest speakers are: Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez, Senator and Chairman of the Small Business Committee John Kerry, Congressman and Ranking member of the Small Business Committee Steve Chabot and many others.

Over the next two days, we will also announce the second and first runners up of the National Small Business Person of the Year award, with the final announcement of the National Small Business Person of the Year for 2007, on Tuesday. At our Procurement luncheon today, we will announce the SUB and PRIME contractors of the year awards.

For more than 40 years, the SBA has recognized outstanding small business owners for their contributions to the nation's economy and for their personal achievements during small business week in the areas of disaster recovery, procurement and entrepreneurial success.

Since 1963, every President has declared National Small Business Week to formally recognize the important role of America's small business community.

Just this past Thursday, President George W. Bush proclaimed this week, National Small Business Week, as a time to recognize the important role you play in ensuring this country remains the economic leader of the world.

In his proclamation the President said, "Every day, our nation's small businesses help enhance the lives of our citizens and lead the way in an economy distinguished by low unemployment, sustained job creation, and one of the fastest growth rates of any major industrialized nation."

You are the force that drives our economy and you personify the entrepreneurial spirit that is vital to the growth of the American economy

There have been over 7 ½ million new jobs created over the last 3 ½ years—more than the other industrialized nations combined. In fact, it is small business that create two-thirds of the new jobs and represent half of our non-farm private GDP.

Small businesses drive a tremendous amount of the innovation in our country; small patenting firms produce 13 to 14 times more patents per employee than their larger competitors do.

And because of all that, small business ownership allows you to realize your dreams, not only for you and your family, but for those you employ and those you serve.

The SBA is proud to have you here in our Nation's Capitol, and we are proud of what you have achieved, and we are proud and thankful to have helped many of you along the road to your success.

### **Guest Speaker Introduction (Jim Lambright)**

At this time I would like to introduce our first guest speaker. Jim Lambright is the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the U.S. government's official export credit agency.

The President promoted him to chairman and president (acting) in July 2005 from his position as the Bank's executive vice president and chief operating officer. The United States Senate confirmed his nomination in July 2006.

He came to Export-Import Bank in 2001 from Credit Suisse First Boston Corp. in Los Angeles, CA where he was vice president of private equity. There, he specialized in the underwriting and negotiation of real estate and venture capital transactions.

Jim is a friend to small business, and important partner for the SBA, and a great example of the high caliber of people we have serving in many critical roles here in Washington today.

Ladies and gentlemen, please help me give a warm welcome to Jim Lambright.

**Guest Speaker Introduction (Fran Townsend)**

Thanks for your insightful words Jim. At this time I would like to introduce our next guest speaker. Fran Townsend is the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism. Ms. Townsend was appointed as Homeland Security Advisor by the President in 2004.

She chairs the Homeland Security Council and reports to the President on United States Homeland Security Policy and Combating Terrorism matters.

Ms. Townsend previously served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Combating Terrorism. She came to the White House from the U. S. Coast Guard, where she had served as Assistant Commandant for Intelligence.

He is a highly trusted advisor to the President, and thoughtful, articulate, and valuable voice on vital issues of National Security. Ladies and gentlemen please help me give a warm welcome to Fran Townsend.

## **Guest Speaker Introduction (Susan Dudley)**

Thank you for your remarks Fran. Thank you for your service to all of us in making our country a safer place for ourselves and our families.

At this time I would like to introduce to you our final guest speaker.

Susan Dudley is the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget. Ms. Dudley was nominated by the President last year and appointed on earlier this month to serve as the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at OMB.

Ms. Dudley previously served at the non-profit Mercatus Center at George Mason University, where she directed the Regulatory Studies Program from 2003 to 2006. As an Adjunct professor at the George Mason University School of Law from 2002 to 2006, she designed and taught courses on regulations and led regulatory clinics.

Ms. Dudley is a respected scholar who has authored more than 25 scholarly publications on regulatory matters ranging from e-rulemaking, to electricity, health care, the environment, and occupational safety.

Ladies and gentlemen, please help me give a warm welcome to Susan Dudley.

## **Final Remarks**

Thank you for joining us this morning, and a special thank you to all our guest speakers.

I am looking forward and hope you are too, to the rest of our 2007 Small Business Week events.

Please remember the Procurement Lunch today begins at 11:30 am downstairs in this building in the Atrium Hall, Concourse Level and our evening reception begins at 6:00 pm at the U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Reception Room.

Thanks again and enjoy the rest of your morning, we'll see you again at 11:30am.